



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/665,200	09/19/2003	Ali Ebrahimi	79361	5754
26528	7590	04/30/2007	EXAMINER	
TOWNSEND TOWNSEND AND CREW LLP TWO EMBARCADERO CETNER, EIGHTH FLOOR SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111				WOZNIAK, JAMES S
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
		2626		
MAIL DATE			DELIVERY MODE	
04/30/2007			PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/665,200	EBRAHIMI, ALI
	Examiner	Art Unit
	James S. Wozniak	2626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 September 2003.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 19 September 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: the co-pending application information in paragraph 21 of the specification is incomplete and should be corrected to include the current status of the application. It is believed that the application being referred to is 10/047,913, filed on 1/15/2002, which is now U.S. Patent No. 7,111,248.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

2. **Claims 4 and 16** are objected to because of the following informalities: the spelling of “idiogram” should be changed to --ideogram--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. **Claims 1-11, 14-18, and 21-27** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by King et al (*U.S. Patent: 5,953,541*).

With respect to **Claims 1 and 22**, King discloses a method and system for disambiguating a user's text input (i.e., graphic symbol expressions) utilizing a plurality of preidentified expressions stored in a vocabulary module (*Col. 10, Lines 5-33*). These expressions include of a plurality of characters (*letter or number sequences, Col. 13, Lines 30-60*) and a combination of characters and spaces that separate characters (*phrases containing letters and spaces between words, Col. 13, Lines 30-60*). The method and system taught by King is also capable of receiving a user input that corresponds to a word stem (i.e., portion) of a full expression (*receiving an input corresponding to a word stem, Col. 11, Line 40- Col. 12, Line 4*). This word stem is then used to identify and select an intended input expression (*identification using a word stem, Col. 11, Line 40- Col. 12, Line 4; and selecting the top choice as the intended text entry, Col. 9, Lines 63-65*).

With respect to **Claim 2**, King discloses that expressions are single letters, words, or phrases (*Col. 13, Lines 30-60*).

With respect to **Claim 3**, King discloses that characters are selected from the group at least consisting of linguistic elements (letters) and non-linguistic elements (numbers) (*Col. 13,Lines 30-60*).

With respect to **Claim 4**, King discloses that linguistic elements are selected from the group at least consisting of letters (*Col. 13, Lines 30-60*), ideograms (*kana and kanji, Col. 33, Line 63- Col. 34, Line 58*), and punctuation marks (*apostrophe, Col. 16, Lines 14-32; and accent marks, Col. 22, Lines 3-29*).

With respect to **Claim 5**, King discloses generic vocabulary modules (*Col. 13, Lines 30-60*).

With respect to **Claim 6**, King discloses custom vocabularies (*Col. 26, Lines 4-49*).

With respect to **Claim 7**, King discloses the generic and custom vocabularies as respectively applied to Claims 5 and 6.

With respect to **Claim 8**, King discloses a reduced keyboard (*Col. 8, Lines 45-63*).

With respect to **Claim 9**, King discloses a keyboard in the form of a touchscreen (*i.e., soft*) keyboard or a mechanical keyboard (*Col. 8, Lines 45-63*).

With respect to **Claims 10-11**, King discloses disambiguation of a phrase that comprises multiple words and represents a sentence portion (*Col. 13, Lines 30-60*).

With respect to **Claim 14**, King discloses phrase disambiguation as applied to Claim 10 and the linguistic elements as applied to Claim 4.

With respect to **Claim 15**, King discloses the method for disambiguating a user's text input as applied to Claim 1 and the custom vocabulary as applied to Claim 6.

With respect to **Claim 16**, King discloses the characters and linguistic elements as respectively applied to Claims 3 and 4.

With respect to **Claims 17-18**, King discloses disambiguation of a phrase that comprises multiple words and represents a sentence portion (*Col. 13, Lines 30-60*).

With respect to **Claim 21**, King discloses phrase disambiguation as applied to Claim 10 and the linguistic elements as applied to Claim 4.

With respect to **Claim 23**, King shows a keypad having a plurality of characters assigned to a single key (*Fig. 1A*).

With respect to **Claim 24**, King discloses a telephone keypad (*Col. 28, Lines 48-51*), which can correspond to a cellular phone keypad (*Col. 1, Lines 41-45*).

With respect to **Claim 25**, King discloses the display of Fig. 1A.

With respect to **Claim 26**, King discloses word stem-based disambiguation as applied to Claim 1.

With respect to **Claim 27**, King discloses an internal device memory (*Col. 9, Lines 26-47*).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. **Claims 12-13 and 19-20** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over King et al (*U.S. Patent: 5,953,541*) in view of Kraft et al (*U.S. Patent: 7,149,550*).

With respect to **Claim 12**, King discloses the method for text disambiguation as applied to claim 1, but does not specifically suggest sentence-level disambiguation, however Kraft discloses a method for sentence completion (*Col. 8, Line 45- Col. 9, Line 45*).

King and Kraft are analogous art because they are from a similar field of endeavor in text disambiguation. Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of invention, to modify the teachings of King with the sentence completion means

taught by Kraft in order to implement optimized word completion for an individual, which does not require a great deal of memory (*Kraft, Col. 9, Lines 4-18*).

With respect to **Claim 13**, Kraft further discloses completing an entire message template following a user text input (*Col. 8, Line 55- Col. 9, Line 3*).

Claims 19-20 contain subject matter respectively similar to Claims 12-13, and thus, are rejected for the same reasons.

7. **Claim 28** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over King et al (*U.S. Patent: 5,953,541*) in view of Will (*U.S. Patent: 6,392,640*).

With respect to **Claim 28**, King discloses the system for text disambiguation as applied to claim 1, but does not specifically suggest a remotely disposed memory, however Will discloses a text disambiguation system featuring a remote server memory (*Col. 3, Lines 6-16*).

King and Will are analogous art because they are from a similar field of endeavor in text disambiguation. Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of invention, to modify the teachings of King with the remote server memory taught by Will in order to minimize memory requirements of a wireless communication device (*Will, Col. 3, Lines 6-16*).

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Nowlan et al (*U.S. Patent: 6,204,848*)- discloses a method for text prediction in a reduced keypad application based on n-gram probabilities.

Mulvey et al (*U.S. Patent: 7,111,248*)- discloses the use of a user model in text disambiguation.

Goodman et al (*U.S. Patent: 7,117,144*)- discloses a method for text disambiguation that is capable of predicting a complete entry corresponding to a partial user input based on standard and user vocabularies.

Vandermeijden (*U.S. Patent: 7,143,043*)- discloses a method for constrained keyboard disambiguation.

Lesher et al ("Optimal Character Arrangements for Ambiguous Keyboards," 2002)- discloses a method for character prediction in a reduced keyboard application.

Clemens et al ("Individually Assisted Text Entry with Situational and Contextual Prediction," 2002)- discloses a method for text prediction on a reduced keyboard.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James S. Wozniak whose telephone number is (571) 272-7632. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th, 7:30-5:00, F, 7:30-4, Off Alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick Edouard can be reached at (571) 272-7603. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

James S. Wozniak
4/18/2007



PATRICK N. EDOUARD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER